

Appln. Serial No.: 10/603,848)

Examiner: Bryan Fischmann

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CENTRAL FAX CENTERFor: AN APPARATUS FOR ASSISTING)
ENTRY INTO HIGH ROAD)
CLEARANCE VEHICLES)

AUG - 5 2004

DRAFT CLAIMS FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY

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CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. (amended) An apparatus for assisting entry into high road clearance vehicles comprising:

a generally cylindrical side bar adapted for attachment for horizontal attachment to a vehicle wherein said bar is fixedly attached to a side of the vehicle positioned along a the longitudinal axis of the vehicle;

one or more smaller U-shaped cylindrical bars comprised of two end portions and a center portion wherein said end portions are fixedly attached to said side bar; and

a generally flat surface on the top of each of said center ~~bar~~ portion of said U-shaped bars.

2. (original) An apparatus for assisting entry into high road clearance vehicles as claimed in claim 1 wherein said U-shaped bars are welded to said side bar.
3. (original) An apparatus for assisting entry into high road clearance vehicles as claimed in claim 1 further comprising a non-slip or non-skid material placed on the flat area on the top of the U-shaped bar.
4. (original) An apparatus for assisting entry into high road clearance vehicles as claimed in claim 1 wherein said U-shaped bars are attached at an angle approximately 45 degrees from the horizontal plane of said side bar.

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5. (original) An apparatus for assisting entry into high road clearance vehicles as claimed in claim 1 wherein said side bar has a bent end portion.
6. (original) An apparatus for assisting entry into high road clearance vehicles as claimed in claim 1 wherein said U-shaped bars have end portions that connect to said side bar at an angle of approximately 0 to 45 degrees.
7. (original) An apparatus for assisting entry into high road clearance vehicles as claimed in claim 1 wherein said end portions of said U-shaped bar meet said center portion at an angle of approximately 0 to 45 degrees.
8. (amended) An apparatus for assisting entry into high road clearance vehicles comprising:
 - a generally cylindrical side bar adapted for horizontal attachment to a vehicle wherein said side bar is fixedly attached to a side of the vehicle ~~positioned~~ along ~~a the~~ longitudinal axis of the vehicle;
 - one or more U-shaped cylindrical bars comprised of two end portions and a center portion, wherein said end portions are attached to and suspended from said side bar; and
 - a non-skid surface on the top of each of said center portions bars of said U-shaped bars.
9. (amended) An apparatus to enable access into a vehicle comprising:
 - a generally cylindrical side bar adapted for horizontal attachment to a vehicle wherein said bar is fixedly attached to a side of the vehicle ~~positioned~~ along ~~the a~~ longitudinal axis of the vehicle;
 - a generally U-shaped bar comprised of two end portions and a center portion bar, said end portions fixedly attached to said side bar, wherein said U-shaped bar is attached at an angle approximately 45 degrees from the horizontal plane ;and
 - a generally flat surface on the top of said center portion bar of said U-shaped bar.

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